

Idi Amin to address Americans

NAIROBI, March 14 (R). — President Idi Amin plans to address British and American living in Uganda but his government guarantees their safety, Uganda Radio reported tonight. It said "only those British and Americans who made propaganda against Uganda would be asked to leave." The radio said President Amin "will make arrangements to address them in the presence of religious leaders." But it gave no hint when the meeting would take place. The broadcast also quoted a government spokesman as saying serious consideration was being given to the withdrawal of a number of Ugandans training to be pilots in Scotland. Kampala radio reported, meanwhile, that Ugandans possessing "illegal or home-made firearms" have been given four days to surrender them to the authorities.

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PNC opens hot debate in PLO executive report

JRO, March 14 (R). — Minutes and radicals in the Palestinian National Council (PNC) here today steered a clear line course which could mean the survival of the PLO in its present form. Hard-liners critical of PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's moderate policies tonight dominated the first policy debate at PNC meeting. The assembly discussed a report drawn up by the PLO Executive Committee which included a call on the United Nations to invite the PLO to a conference in Geneva. The report also called for a reconvened Middle East conference. The report's lead by Mr. Farouk Kaddumi, head of the PLO political department. The PLO has informed U.N. Secretary General Kurt Waldheim during his recent visit to the Middle East area that... PLO should be invited to a conference as an independent party, the report said. It added that the PLO rejected any discussion of the justness of the cause in the absence of the PLO. The report reflected the moderate line of Mr. Arafat but echoed from both sides of the political spectrum said that five speakers at tonight's debate tended towards the radical line of the Rejection Front commando organisations opposed to a negotiated Middle East settlement. The delegates said tonight's speakers had come out against Palestinian participation at Geneva and had tabled questions, the precise conditions, for establishment of a Palestinian state. Mr. Arafat and other moderate in the PLO are advocating establishment of a Palestinian state on the Israeli-occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip rather than push for regaining all of former Palestine by military force. Two of tonight's speakers were members of the Rejection Front but the others were previously considered moderate or "independent" — not firmly tied to a political line or any of the Palestinian commando organisations. A PLO spokesman tonight read out cables received from municipal leaders in the West Bank and Gaza calling for Palestinian participation in a Geneva conference and the creation of "a Palestinian state capable of defending itself." Some conference sources said that tonight's opposition to Mr. Arafat's policy of moderation did not necessarily reflect the strength of the Rejection Front in the PNC, the supreme body of the PLO. The executive committee's report took issue with U.S. President Jimmy Carter's recent statement that a Middle East settlement would probably involve minor adjustments to Israel's pre-1967 borders and an Israeli defence capability beyond the permanent end and recognised borders. The report said that the statement underlined that there was no sign of change in American policy towards the Palestinians, the crux of the Middle East conflict. The council yesterday re-elected Mr. Khaled Fahoum, a "moderate", as speaker in favour of a candidate from the hard-line Rejection Front. Mr. Fahoum collected 172 votes and Mr. Bahjat Abn Ghariyeh of the Popular Struggle Front (PSF) received 69 votes. There were 21 abstentions. The PSF is one of the four commando groups of the Rejection Front.



SAVED FROM ENTOMBEMENT — After 187 hours, 59-year-old teacher Elena Enache, was saved from under the ruins of a 10-floor building in Bucharest which collapsed upon her during the earthquake of March 4. Perfectly conscious when she was saved, she gave her name. She was holding a radio set which was probably her aid in giving her news and keeping her conscious. President Ceausescu has announced that the earthquake killed 1,387 people and injured more than 10,500. The biggest losses were suffered by Bucharest and the cities of Zimnicea, Ploiesti, and Craiova. Eighty per cent of Zimnicea's buildings were destroyed. A lot of factories suffered big losses and more than 200 interrupted their activities. The value of the losses exceeds \$1 billion. (AP wirephoto).

Leftist advances, Chirac victory in municipal polls setback for Giscard

PARIS, March 14 (Agencies). — President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, searching for a formula to beat the leftwing opposition, has suffered a double blow to his prestige in municipal elections throughout France. First-round voting yesterday showed steadily rising popularity for the opposition alliance of Socialists and Communists, which made impressive gains in more than 30 provincial cities. The leftwing opposition parties won a majority for the first time in French elections held on a countrywide basis, taking close to 52 per cent in yesterday's vote. The second major blow for the president was the defeat of his own hand-picked candidate by Gaullist leader Jacques Chirac in a race for the mayors of Paris, a post that has been vacant for a century. M. Chirac, prime minister until last August when he was ousted in a dispute with President Giscard d'Estaing, trounced Industry Minister Michel d'Ornano in the Paris contest. He now looks set to become mayor after a run-off vote against the opposition left next Sunday. The advance by the electoral coalition of Socialists and Communists was admitted by the main leaders of the "presidential majority" (Gaullists, Giscardian Independent Republicans, and centrists). The leftist thrust enabled Socialists or Communists to win outright on the first ballot in the mayoral battles in some 30 cities with a population of more than 30,000. There are 221 such cities in France. In the last municipal elections in 1971, the mayor's office was won by members of the "presidential majority" in 119 cities in this category. The Socialists, led by Francois Mitterrand, were the main beneficiaries of the leftist gains. But their Communist allies could also consider themselves winners. Thanks to the joint list, the Communists had already won the tricolor mayor's sash in many communities where they would otherwise have been also-rans. Leftwing leaders saw their gains at the municipal level as foreshadowing their victory in elections for parliament which are scheduled for the spring of next year. Mr. Chirac, an aggressive politician with his eyes on the presidency, seems convinced that he should be the man to lead France's anti-left forces in the campaign for next year's general elections. When you galvanise the majority sufficiently, when you make a big effort to give it confidence, then you can hold off the left with no trouble," he declared last night. M. Chirac became disenchanted with the president after the leftwing emerged victorious in cantonal elections a year ago. The president refused to be pushed into calling early legislative elections which the Gaullist leader considered necessary. The advance by the electoral coalition of Socialists and Communists was admitted by the main leaders of the "presidential majority" (Gaullists, Giscardian Independent Republicans, and centrists). The leftist thrust enabled Socialists or Communists to win outright on the first ballot in the mayoral battles in some 30 cities with a population of more than 30,000. There are 221 such cities in France. In the last municipal elections in 1971, the mayor's office was won by members of the "presidential majority" in 119 cities in this category. The Socialists, led by Francois Mitterrand, were the main beneficiaries of the leftist gains. But their Communist allies could also consider themselves winners. Thanks to the joint list, the Communists had already won the tricolor mayor's sash in many communities where they would otherwise have been also-rans. Leftwing leaders saw their gains at the municipal level as foreshadowing their victory in elections for parliament which are scheduled for the spring of next year. Mr. Chirac, an aggressive politician with his eyes on the presidency, seems convinced that he should be the man to lead France's anti-left forces in the campaign for next year's general elections. When you galvanise the majority sufficiently, when you make a big effort to give it confidence, then you can hold off the left with no trouble," he declared last night. M. Chirac became disenchanted with the president after the leftwing emerged victorious in cantonal elections a year ago. The president refused to be pushed into calling early legislative elections which the Gaullist leader considered necessary.

Tension runs high in Basque country for fifth consecutive day

MADRID, March 14 (Agencies). — Demonstrations continued in the Spanish Basque country today, three days after the government announced plans for an amnesty. Tension remained high as a 20-year-old Basque youth died today in a hospital in the northern city of San Sebastian after being hit by a police rubber bullet during violent demonstrations on Saturday night, hospital sources said. The sources said the youth, identified as Jose Luis Aristizabal, was hit by the bullet as he sat in his car trapped in a demonstration. San Sebastian has been the scene of five days of violent clashes between riot police and Basque nationalist demonstrators protesting against last week's killing by para-military civil guards of two alleged Basque separatists. In Zarauz, on the outskirts of San Sebastian, a general strike was observed today after a worker was reported wounded by civil guard bullets yesterday evening. Legal circles in San Sebastian said the civil guard had intervened in Zarauz as an audience of several hundred dispersed following a concert. An eyewitness alleged that police "forced people to kneel on the highway". Some people reportedly panicked, and there were "several bursts of machine gun fire on three or four occasions," the eyewitness said. He added that several drivers were forced to get out of their cars and were clubbed by civil guardsmen. A child passing by was "attacked by several policemen who shouted 'He's a Basque, we'll hit him.'" In Madrid, police today accused an official of Spain's state-run labour unions of having hired two gunmen who killed four Communist lawyers and a legal assistant in their office here on Jan. 24. Police named the man as Francisco Albadalejo Correda-

Egypt presses for Security Council meet

UNITED NATIONS, March 14 (R). — Egypt today pressed for an early meeting of the Security Council to discuss efforts to revive the Geneva Middle East peace conference in light of Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's recent trip to the area. After raising the matter at a meeting with Mr. Waldheim, Egyptian Ambassador Ahmed Ismat Abdul Meguid told reporters that he had not yet submitted a formal request for a debate but could do so at any time. He thought it likely that the council would convene this week but said the date would depend on consultations with fellow members of the African group who are planning a series of council sessions on Southern African issues. The 15-nation council, of which Egypt is not a member, is to meet informally tomorrow to discuss its future programme of work. The Egyptian envoy also stressed the need for an early Middle East debate during an informal conversation last Friday with ambassador Andrew Young of the United States, council president for the month of March. Dr. Meguid told reporters his mission last month aimed at reactivating the dormant Geneva conference had been in the hands of the council president since March 1. Referring to a General Assembly resolution last December which called for such a report, the envoy added: "Our position is that the council should convene to discuss the situation in the Middle East in the light of the report of the secretary general."

Ramallah prisoners begin hunger strike

TEL AVIV, March 14 (R). — Prisoners in Ramallah jail, in the occupied West Bank, today began a hunger strike to press demands for improved conditions. The 200 prisoners, all sentenced by Israeli military courts for security offences, are also supporting a group of 37 prisoners in Asqalan prison, who have been on hunger strike for more than two weeks, prison officials said in Tel Aviv. They added that a group of 49 prisoners, who had continued a hunger strike after being transferred from Asqalan a fortnight ago, ended their hunger strike today. Meanwhile, some 200 West Bank schoolgirls today staged a demonstration in Beit Sahur, near Jerusalem. They were mourning the death of an Arab guerrilla alleged to have been murdered in Beersheba jail by fellow inmates. The government in the past 48 hours announced the arrest of six men and a woman in connection with the killings, including Senor Albadalejo and the two alleged gunmen. A 21-year-old salesman Jose Fernandez Cerro and Carlos Gargala Julia, a 21-year-old office clerk. Police said the shooting stemmed from a transport dispute which led to a bus strike in Madrid in December. The lawyers represented Communist workers involved in the dispute. The murder of the lawyers was part of a chain of political violence which the government said was aimed at provoking the army to seize power and halt Spain's progress towards democracy. Police said some of the seven detained people had links with an ultra-right political group called Fuerza Nueva (New Force). The arrests paved the way for lifting six-week-old emergency police powers of search and arrest before the start of the campaign for general elections in June. But the death of the Basque youth today has sent tensions soaring. The youth had been taken to hospital in San Sebastian on Saturday night, blinded in one eye from the rubber bullet. The hospital sources said he fell into a coma and died today. Details of the arrests of the seven people in connection with the lawyers' murders in Madrid were announced on the eve of a special cabinet meeting tomorrow to draw up rules for the coming elections.

Arab, Jewish lawyers demonstrate ... p. 6

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Owen to visit Syria, Egypt

DAMASCUS, March 14 (R). — British Foreign Secretary David Owen will pay an official visit to Syria on March 23 for talks with Syrian officials on the Middle East situation and bilateral relations, officials said here today. He will also visit Egypt for similar talks, the officials added. He will go to Israel for similar discussions in early summer, after the general elections there in May, a Foreign Office spokesman said in London today. These will be the first visits by Dr. Owen to the Middle East since becoming foreign secretary last month. His talks in Damascus will also enable him to discuss the possibility of a London visit by President Hafez Assad who is due to meet President Carter somewhere in Europe in May, the British spokesman added. The American President will be in London for an international economic summit meeting on May 7 and 8. Dr. Owen will visit Damascus and Cairo immediately after attending a meeting of the Central Treaty Organisation (Cento) foreign ministers in Tehran. Details of his Middle East visits have yet to be worked out.

Castro arrives in Addis Ababa

ADDIS ABABA, March 14 (AFP). — Cuban Premier Fidel Castro arrived here today for an "impromptu" visit shrouded in secrecy. Foreign journalists were not allowed to witness his arrival from Samalita at the airport here and no one knows how long the Cuban leader will stay. Observers here said Mr. Castro's visit marks an important step for the Ethiopian revolution and for the military leaders who see themselves as officially recognised for the first time — and by one of the progressist Third World's leaders. Cuba and Ethiopia established diplomatic ties in July 1975.

But press is sceptical Rabin: U.S. will not impose terms on Israel

TEL AVIV, March 14 (R). — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin today reported to the cabinet on his trip to Washington amid public uncertainty about its results. Cabinet sources said Mr. Rabin stressed that he had received assurances from President Carter that the United States would not attempt to impose its conditions for settlement in the Middle East. Mr. Rabin also underlined agreement between the two countries on opposition to the creation of an independent Palestinian state and on the need for Israel to have defensible borders, the sources said. It is the borders issue which has caused the most anxiety here since President Carter told a Washington press conference that Israel would have to make substantial withdrawals from Arab territory captured in the 1967 Middle East war, and that its final borders would reflect only minor adjustments. Mr. Carter added, however, that Israel might retain a military presence beyond these borders, presumably until full peace was achieved. Mr. Rabin, who returned here last night, has been stressing this last point, stating that it introduced new concepts into American thinking on the Middle East. Mr. Rabin said in a television interview broadcast in New York yesterday that President Carter had moved closer to Israel's view on what form a Middle East peace should take. "For the first time, the president's definition of what he means by peace is closer to the Israeli definition than ever," he said. "He recognises the need for defensible boundaries that might differ from the political boundaries. It's a very interesting proposition that has to be explored," Mr. Rabin added. The Israeli premier said repeatedly he was surprised that Mr. Carter had expressed his views in public. He restated that Israel would not return to the pre-1967 boundaries. "For a real peace, Israel is ready for territorial compromises. Not to go back to the lines that existed before the six-day war, because they are not defensible."

Carter "not dismayed" by M.E. reactions

WASHINGTON, March 14 (R). — President Carter is not dismayed by the critical reaction of Israeli and Egyptian leaders to his views about the possible nature of a Middle East settlement, White House Press Secretary Jody Powell said today. He was replying to a question about Israeli Premier Yitzhak Rabin's rejection of a proposal that his country pull back to pre-1967 borders, with minor revisions, and a statement by Egypt's President Anwar Sadat that he would not cede an inch of territory. "The president is not dismayed," Mr. Powell said. "He recognises that if there were any easy options, such a crucial matter would have been solved long before this administration took office." Mr. Powell said the president, at his press conference last week, presented a set of options and not decisions, and made it clear that final agreement would have to be worked out by parties directly involved in the Arab-Israeli dispute.

Lebanese forces take up positions in the south

BEIRUT, March 14 (AFP). — A first 75-man detachment from Lebanese Internal Security Forces has taken up positions in south Lebanon to halt inter-community fighting near the Israeli border, an informed source said here today. The detachment, sent by the government last night, is a vanguard of Lebanese contingents in a region in which fighting has gone on for two months, and border villages have come under intermittent Israeli shelling, the source said. New fighting broke out yesterday after a brief truce, between Lebanese conservative forces on the one hand and Lebanese leftwing and Palestinian forces on the other. The aim of the security contingents, which could reach 2,000 men with modern heavy equipment supplied mainly by Syria, was to re-establish an effective presence in last Lebanon's region still outside government control following the civil war. An informed source said the peace plan for south Lebanon, drawn up by President Elias Sarkis, provided for control by the Lebanese security force in all zones at present in the hands of the belligerents. The force will not be limited to taking up positions between the two camps, and at a later stage will call in heavy arms, the source added. Mr. Sarkis was reported to have approval for the plan from Presidents Hafez Assad and Anwar Sadat. Informed sources said the security contingents will include plainclothes units of the Syrian-controlled Saiga Palestinian movement, to enforce a ceasefire on Palestinians in the border zone.

Italy reported quiet but tense following weekend violence

LOGNA, Italy, March 14 (R). — Thousands of young leftists today paid their last respects to comrades whose death in a construction here last Friday killed a chain of demonstrations in cities throughout Italy over the weekend. The coffin of Francesco Losco, a student shot by police circumstances still to be cleared, was draped in a red flag greeted with clenched fist rites. His death was followed by demonstrations in Bologna, Rome and other major Italian cities. Rome today Interior Minister Francesco Cossiga told Parliament in a statement that the government may submit special legislation in order to deal with the able. Authorities would make a study of the weekend demonstrations and would then draw the necessary conclusions, both on a technical level and on the level of possible legislative measures which might be deemed indispensable to halt the spiral of organised violence," he said. In a newspaper interview published today, the minister left open the possibility of a state of emergency being declared if the situation worsened. On the foreign exchange markets the lira today lost one and a half points against the dollar in a surprise fall which dealers said was partly due to the demonstrations. Police said about 6,000 people attended today's funeral ceremony in Bologna. Demonstrations had been forbidden in the city apart from on the 300 metres of road between the church where the funeral service was held and the cemetery. All political parties from left to right in the political spectrum have condemned the weekend violence and most leftwing parties blamed the trouble on small groups of provocateurs.

Gromyko tells Caglayanil:

SSR ready to improve relations with Turkey

MSCOW, March 14 (R). — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko today pledged the Soviet Union's readiness to work a continued improvement relations with Turkey. He told Turkish Foreign Minister Tansu Caglayanil, who arrived yesterday on an official visit, that if their countries were to develop "an ascending line", both countries must be ready to take the necessary steps. "As regards our side, I can assure you that we are prepared to take such steps," he declared. Mr. Gromyko, whose speech was reported by Tass news agency, spoke at a luncheon in Mr. Caglayanil's honour after the two ministers opened talks here on bilateral and international issues. While in Moscow, Mr. Caglayanil is expected to sign a year economic agreement which is believed to provide for \$122 million of Soviet aid to Turkey. Mr. Gromyko, as quoted by Tass, did not detail the steps he thought the two countries could take to develop closer ties, but he was apparently referring to the prospects of a Soviet-Turkish friendship treaty. Moscow and Ankara reached preliminary agreement on such a pact in 1975 but have so far differed on the wording. The Turks were understood to consider a Soviet draft too close to a "non-aggression pact" formula. Moscow watched with undisguised satisfaction as signs of strain appeared in Turkey's relations with the West largely due to U.S. limitations on arms supplies imposed after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974. In his speech today, Mr. Gromyko pointedly referred to the era of Lenin, founder of the Soviet state, and Turkey's first President, Mustafa Kemal (Ataturk), when "our states jointly fought against their common enemies". Mr. Gromyko mentioned no country by name, but he apparently had in mind the U.S., Britain and France — who all intervened in Russia after the 1917 Bolshevik revolution and also backed Greece against Turkey after World War One. Turning to Cyprus, Mr. Gromyko said Moscow welcomed efforts to restore trust between the island's Greek and Turkish communities. He made no reference to past Soviet allegations that Nato wanted to turn the island into a military stronghold. But he stressed the known Soviet view that the Cyprus question should be settled with strict respect for its sovereignty, territorial integrity and policy of non-alignment. Mr. Gromyko also said Moscow hoped Turkey would contribute to the implementation of Soviet disarmament proposals. Mr. Caglayanil stressed the need to establish first of all an effective system of verification. In his speech Mr. Caglayanil said there were good prospects for developing Soviet-Turkish cooperation in all areas. "We are proud to have turned the Turkish-Soviet border into a border of peace, cooperation and friendship," he declared.

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Seize the wind

The meeting in Cairo of the Palestine National Council comes at a time when the Middle East sits on the verge of major new possibilities, both for peace and conflict. The Palestinians themselves and alone will determine neither, but they remain the central actors in the drama that has revolved around an inability of the key players to appreciate the full meaning and presence of the other. These two actors, of course, are the Israelis and the Palestinians. The Palestinians are fighting a battle whose gains and losses will only be measured by the vast sweeps of history. But they are at a time and place today where they can positively play with the forces of history and the winds of circumstance that blow all around the Middle East.

Their great challenge this week is to look closely at the forces of the day and see where their own concerted pressures will best help accumulate and concentrate those forces at the door of Israel, and the liberation of Palestine. The battle of the Palestinians always has been and remains to live as free men and women in Palestine, and the focus of the meeting of the Palestine National Council must be on how best to continue this battle. Thanks largely to the persistence of the Palestinian struggle, Israel finds itself today alone, broke, directionless and without firm leadership. All this and more is testament to the disarray in Israel that mirrors the fact that Israel has not won acceptance in the Arab Middle East on the terms that it offers.

What has happened in the past several years is that the myths of Israeli propriety and invincibility have been quietly laid to rest. The world or at least most of the world, no longer looks at Israel without daring to utter a questioning thought or ask a delicate question about Israeli settlements or annexation and colonisation policies. Even the president of the United States talks about a vast Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands.

The Palestinians are at a stage where they can exploit the winds that blow. They have to be careful not to be blown over and drowned by the gales of peace that buffet the region every so often, but they must not be afraid to ride with the currents that head in a parallel direction as themselves. Israel is vulnerable because it stands naked before a questioning and war-weary world. The Palestinians should take advantage of the circumstances of the day to add their weight to the drive that aims to isolate Israel even further and bring Israel to its senses.

If the freedom fighter's gun remains firmly clutched in one hand of the Palestinians, the olive branch in the other hand may now have an opportune moment to take centre stage.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Three Jordanian dailies took up different subjects in their Monday editorials. While Al Ra'i commented on the meeting which took place between Prime Minister Mudar Badran and members of the Jordanian Upper House of Parliament, Al Dustour discussed the fighting underway in the south of Lebanon and Al Akhbar called on the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Cairo to unite the Palestinian resistance.

AL RA'I, supports the principle of the people's participation in government, exemplified by the expose made by Premier Badran on the latest developments in the Middle East crisis during his meeting Sunday with members of the Upper House of Parliament. Mr. Badran's detailed and first hand report is considered by the paper as a correct and worthy move in the absence of democratic institutions in the Jordanian political scene. The Middle East crisis, our national problem, will become more important in the life of every Jordanian citizen if he is brought to feel that he should know every detail and align his conduct and work to solve it, the paper adds. The prime minister's detailed report to the parliamentarians is an encouraging sign, the paper says, and an act of sharing information should be more widely spread to allow every citizen to be informed of his country's policies. This has always been clear and a constant practice under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, the paper adds, and Jordan has no qualms or fears in having in-

formation declared publicly.

AL SHA'B, discussing the fighting in the south of Lebanon says that the situation there is fit to be the major Arab concern, particularly at this delicate stage. The Arabs should unite to solve the problem of south Lebanon. By doing so they will prevent Arab bloodshed and their efforts from being squandered, check Israel from using it as a pretext for intervention in Arab affairs and as an excuse for more expansion. However, the paper adds, if the fighting continues, it might bring about serious repercussions for the Arabs. The paper calls on the Arabs to consider the settlement of the crisis in south Lebanon as a national duty.

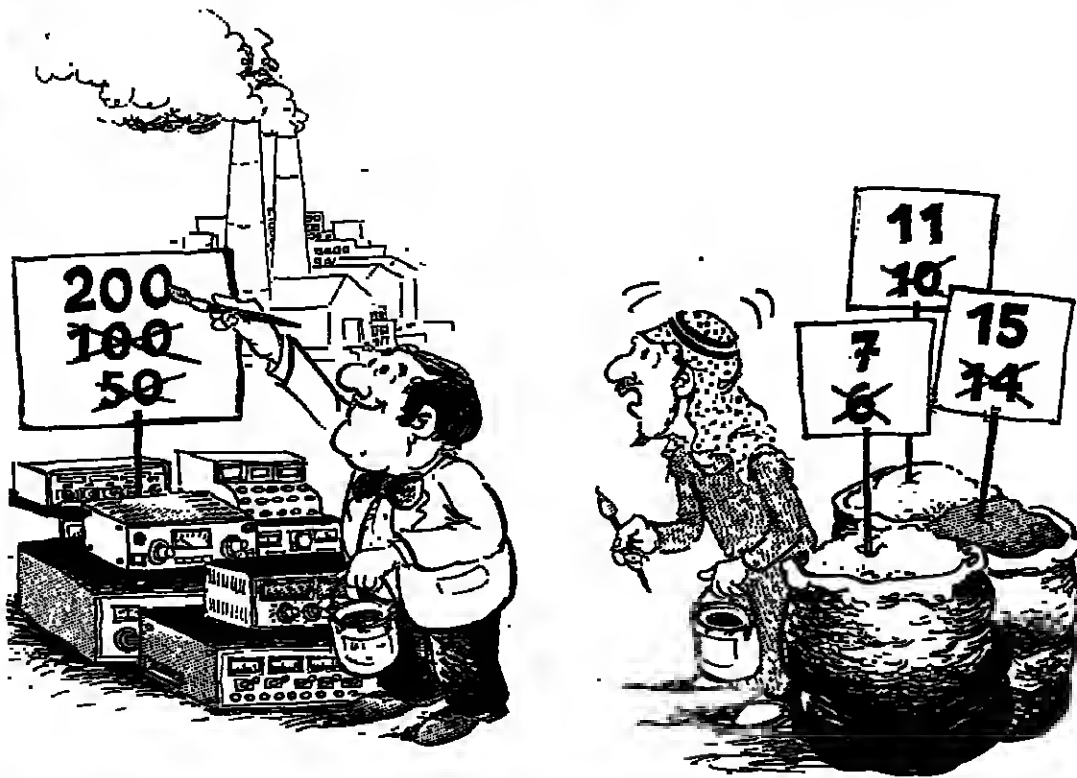
AL AKHBAR, calls on the Palestine National Council (PNC) to end once and for all the differences and contradictions between the various Palestinian organisations. The recent Middle East developments, the paper adds, make it imperative that the Palestinian leadership define its strategy on both the military and political fronts. It should end these contradictions to save the Palestinian organisations from being surprised by events while they are still victims of these contradictions, the paper adds. It also called on all Palestinian groupings to shelve their differences so that the council could come up with resolutions marking their great aims. Palestine is the crux of the Middle East conflict and the possibilities of peace and war hinge on the Palestinian positions and desires, the paper concluded.

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Might North Korea take advantage of U.S. withdrawal to invade South?

by Gwynne Dyer

It is a year since Jimmy Carter first promised that, if elected president, he would withdraw U.S. troops from South Korea. Yet somehow people didn't quite believe it. The presence of U.S. troops in Korea had become a seemingly permanent part of the international scene over the past quarter-century, and no one could imagine their absence.

So the Japanese, in particular, reacted with ill-concealed horror when Vice-President Mondale revealed in Tokyo earlier this year that they really were going home. What terrifies the Japanese is the possibility that the withdrawal of the 42,000 American troops could be the trigger for a North Korean invasion, and another Korean War right on their doorstep.

It worries some other people too, and that fear has been assiduously exploited by the South Korean government in a campaign to retain the maximum U.S. support. Does the U.S. withdrawal really mean the possibility of invasion by the North?

The South Korean government is repressive and dictatorial, and there are those in the U.S. Congress who see it as scarcely any better than the grotesquely personalised version of Communist dictatorship practiced in the North by Kim Il Sung "A plague on both your Koraes" just about sums up their attitude.

On closer examination, however, President Carter's administration is not doing anything so drastic as dropping South Korea. The ground forces, the great majority of the U.S. contingent in South Korea, will all go in a phased withdrawal. They will not even be re-positioned elsewhere in the Pacific area.

The main purpose of their presence, however, was merely

to involve the U.S. immediately and automatically in any new Korean war, as a deterrent against a possible North Korean attack. That is a commitment that the U.S. government would prefer to have some choice about.

But the militarily more significant U.S. contribution to South Korea's defence, the air force squadrons, will stay, and so presumably will most of the estimated 600-plus U.S. tactical nuclear weapons now based in Korea. U.S. military aid and arms sales will continue at about the present levels.

The South Koreans themselves have been trying to lessen their military dependence on the U.S. for some time, and talk in terms of self-sufficiency by 1980. South Korea already manufactures most of its own ground forces equipment, and the complete re-equipment of its air force with modern aircraft is already assured by existing U.S. contracts. No precise schedule for U.S. withdrawal has yet been decided, and in fact it will probably be phased to coincide with the completion of South Korea's rearmament programme.

U.S. troop withdrawals will not substantially alter the balance of military forces between the two intensely hostile Koreas. The strategic question comes down to whether or not a greatly diminished U.S. physical presence will mean a reduction in the deterrent effect on Pyongyang of the U.S.-South Korean defence agreement.

So long as American aircraft and nuclear weapons remain, the U.S. deterrent still seems quite persuasive. Neither China nor the Soviet Union, moreover, could have any interest in backing a North Korean enterprise which offers them no direct advantages, and might easily wreck their relations with the U.S. into the bargain. (The Chinese are widely credited with discouraging Kim

from just such an adventure in May of 1975, just after the fall of Saigon.)

Besides, it is not certain that the North has the military strength to invade successfully. The South Korean Army is fifth-largest in the world, with 520,000 men against North Korea's 430,000. Over half of Seoul's regular troops are Vietnam veterans, while no North Korean soldier has fought since 1953. South Korea's reserves, at 2.7 million, are almost twice Pyongyang's.

The North Koreans do have an apparent 3-to-1 advantage in the air, but in modern, high-performance aircraft the balance is more like 230-150. Further South Korean orders will entirely close the gap by about 1979. Meanwhile, U.S. air power is available in ample quantities to cancel out North Korea's edge.

South Korea has over twice the North's population — 36 million to 16 million — and four times the gross national product. There is a Japanese-style economic miracle underway in South Korea, with average growth rates of over 10 per cent a year. Already, the South Koreans say, their heavy industrial strength equals that of Japan in 1963, and in a few more years the economic gap between the two Koreas will become a gulf.

That is precisely why the South Koreans fear that the North will attack now. Specifically, they fear a sudden, massive armoured attack across the border, seizing a few dozen miles of territory including Seoul (which is only 25 miles from the frontier), followed by a rapid ceasefire before U.S. and could have any major effect. The North Korean purpose, of course, would be to forestall the growth of the South into an unchallengeable industrial power, ending all hope of reunification on the North's terms.

ECONOSCOPE By Jawad Ahmad

The myth of economic objectivity

A teacher of mine used to be fond of the Italian economist Pareto, who divided economists into three groups. There are the collectors who collect information and data, the describers who look at the world as it is, and then there are the prescribers who strive for a model world.

No one of these can be objective. The collector may only worry about the information which corroborates his biases. A describer may see the world from his point of view which is not representative of the total view.

Yet the dangerous ones are those who claim to have the right model of a perfect world. They ascribe the ills of the world on the grounds that the world does not adhere to their teachings, and they prescribe the remedies which are extracted from their imaginations.

The world in which we live now has developed in such a manner as to put economists in key policy-making positions. The days when politics were run by lawyers are almost gone.

With economists in the driver's seat, economists' biases and prejudices become the main preoccupation of the world. Look at our vocabulary. This man is either a liberal or a conservative, capitalist or socialist — euphemisms and name-calling are given to those who adopt our views and to those who don't.

Economic departments of dirty tricks are acquiring loftier positions in government hierarchies. There are those who prepare strate-

gies to beat the Arabs under the pretext of "energy strategy". There are conservation ecologists who want to block undesirable or competitive economic projects. There are wags waged to augment arms industries. There are states kept and maintained to play and economic game such as Israel and South Africa.

In performing all these dirty tricks we superimpose upon them our seemingly objective biases. We succeed sometimes in doing that, but after we don't, and when we don't we look hilariously funny.

In the very same breath, a political economist gives Israel unlimited aid while he is condemning South Africa or Rhodesia for doing the same thing for which Israel is granted aid.

And now that campaign for human rights. What on earth is it? Is it a weapon to exchange the so-called dissidents for grain? Is it a gimmick to reduce black Africans economic and political misfortune into a political motto? Or what?

Surely, economics is becoming more important, but not more objective. Human beings at all levels are producing models to justify their economic claims. This starts from a two-year old child who sweet talks his way to his father's pocket up to international economic disputes on deep-sea fishing rights.

We economists have long ago divorced our positions as objective academicians. Look at the famous economists. Is there anyone of them who is not involved in politics up to his neck?

Objectivity is good, but what on earth is it?

North Sea oil investments sweep Scotland with new prosperity

ABERDEEN, March 14 (AFP). Oil, the black gold from the North Sea, is changing the face of Scotland.

Since the first signs of the vast underwater wealth were discovered under the sea bed in 1969, 15 exploitable fields have been marked out on the map, and Scotland's deserted eastern coastline is now dotted with gigantic pipes and steel structures that have destroyed much of its wild beauty and transformed its economy.

The local people were the first to feel the impact of the onrush of off-shore oil two years ago. Farmers, cattle breeders and fishermen, steeped in the ancient ways of their calling, did not at first take kindly to the industrial desecration of their moors and of their lochs.

But they were swept along to new prosperity as the British government, anxious to develop this manna from the deep pumped money into the area and new jobs, homes storage tanks and installations mushroomed across the landscape, near the grey, wealth-laden sea. The number of new jobs created by oil is estimated at 60,000. Scotsmen who once trailed south or journeyed overseas for work can now stay home instead. And they are earning about as much as anyone in the British Isles.

In the highlands, around Inverness, and in the north, the sons of Gillies now make pipelines and sea platform parts. And, further south, Aberdeen

is becoming the centre of Scotland's oil industry and headquarters for the numerous companies operating in the North Sea.

Two major refineries are under construction. One, at Miggy, north of Inverness, will include a petrochemical industry. The other will be at Grangemouth, near Edinburgh.

The British government, which views the oil as the solution to Britain's economic woes, plans to refine two-thirds of its North Sea oil in Scotland.

But already a troubling question is looming ahead. How long will this prosperity last. Some — they are considered pessimists — say, 20 years. The more hopeful reckon on half-a-century. It all depends on how many more deposits remain to be found under the unfriendly, gale-ridden waters to the east.

The area's future prospects — and all agree on this point — depends largely on the investment of the local oil profits.

The size of the profits is also a point over which hover a large question mark. North Sea oil costs much more to pump out of the underwater bed than the oil from the deserts of Iran and the Arabian peninsula. It costs two dollars to produce a barrel of oil in the Middle East. And the quote price for a North Sea barrel is up to seven dollars.

Whatever the future, on-point remains clear. Scotland does not plan to let its wealth vanish. And that wealth that wealth to help Scotland. The matter has now become one of high political importance. And it remains to be seen how well oil and politics can mix.

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6:	9:20 Reportage
6:00 Quran	10:15 Arabic play
6:05 Cartoons	Channel 6:
6:30 Apples way	7:30 News in Hebrew
8:00 News in Arabic	7:45 Varities
	8:30 The last of the Baskets
Channel 3:	9:10 Rich man, poor man
7:30 Arabic series	10:00 News in English
8:30 Arabic series	10:15 Hawaii 5-0

RADIO JORDAN

(On 856 KHZ)	15:00 Concert hour
7:00 Morning melodies	16:00 Old favourites
7:30 News	16:30 Easy listening
7:40 News reports	17:00 Mail bag
8:00 Sign off	17:45 Pop session
12:00 Pop session	18:00 News summary
13:00 News summary	18:05 Arabs in history
13:05 Pop session	18:30 Sing it again
14:00 News	19:00 News
14:10 Radio magazine	19:10 News reports
14:30 Special feature	19:30 Sign off

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Yahya Tarifi	Talal (22501)
Pharmacies:	Tower (21028)
Amman:	Khayam (41541)
Jabal Hussein (25655)	Nahda (63003)
Habayeh (44930)	

AMMAN AIRPORT

Arrivals:	19:40 Beirut (MEA)
7:30 Baghdad (IA)	00:30 Rome (Alitalia)
8:30 Bangkok, Bahrain	Departures:
8:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi	0:00 Beirut
9:30 Kuwait (KAC)	8:30 Baghdad (IA)
Beirut	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
10:30 Karachi, Kuwait (BA)	10:15 Kuwait (KAC)
10:40 Aleppo, Damascus,	10:30 Cairo
(SAA)	11:00 Geneva, Brussels, Am-
12:10 Muscat, Abu Dhabi,	London (BA)
Doha (GA)	12:00 Agaba (SAA)
14:10 Agaba (SAA)	13:00 Athens (GA)
London	14:45 Damascus (SAA)
17:15 Paris, Rome	19:00 Bahrain, Bangkok
17:30 Copenhagen, Frankfurt	19:30 Abu Dhabi, Karachi
18:00 Cairo	21:00 Jeddah
18:10 Madrid, Athens	22:55 Doha, Muscat
18:15 Amsterdam, Athens	01:15 Dubai (Alitalia)
(KLM)	

BBC RADIO

GMT	15:00 Radio Newsreel
05:00 News, 24 hours	15:15 Outlook
05:30 Sarah Ward	15:30 News, Commentary
06:45 The World Today	16:00 Lord Peter Wimsey:
06:30 News, Press Review	Clouds of Witness
06:30 Folk and Country	The World Today
07:00 News, 24 hours	16:45 News
07:30 Sarah Ward	17:00 Books and Writers
07:45 The Energy of God	17:09 Take One
08:00 News	17:30 Sports Round-up
08:15 Short Story	News, News about Bri-
08:30 Composer and Inter-	tain
09:00 News, U.K. Press Re-	18:15 Radio Newsreel
view	18:30 Talkabout
09:15 The World Today	19:00 Outlook, News Sum-
09:30 Financial News	mary
09:45 Look Ahead	19:42 Stock Market Report
10:15 Ulster '77	One Piano, Four Hands
10:30 Eric Morecambe and	20:00 News, 24 hours
Ernie Wise	The Pleasure's Yours
11:00 News, News about Bri-	21:00 Business and Industry
tain	21:15 Ulster '77
11:15 A Musician Remembers	21:30 Farming World
11:30 Sports International	22:00 News, The World To-
12:00 Radio Newsreel	day
12:15 The Pleasure's Yours	22:25 Financial News
12:45 Sports Round-up	22:35 Aria
13:00 News, 24 hours	22:45 Sports Round-up
14:15 Report on Religion	23:00 News, Commentary
14:30 Talkabout	23:15 Nature Notebook

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT	18:00 Special English. News, Features, Science in the News, News Summary.
03:00 The Breakfast Show to 03:30, 04:00, 05:00 and 06:00 GMT	18:30 Now Music USA
06:30 Regional and Topical Reports, VOA Current News Summary. 08:30, 04:30 and 05:30 GMT	19:30 An informal presentation of popular music with feature reports 20:00 and interviews, ans- 20:15 Music USA (Jazz).
17:00 News Roundup, Reports, Actualities, Opinions, Analyses. News Summary	21:30 VOA World Report News ... newsmakers' voices ... to correspondents' reports ... background features ... media comment- ... news analyses.

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Fire headquarters	" 23880
First aid, fire, police	" 18
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	" 33381-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	" 37111-3
Police headquarters	" 30141
Najdah, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 21111, 37777

Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 41528
British Council	" 30147-8
French Cultural Centre	" 37080
Goethe Institute	" 41080
Soviet Cultural Centre	" 44288
Amman Municipal Library	" 30111

هكذا صوت القتل

British-Jordanian study proceeds on multiple sclerosis

By Fernando Francis
Special to the Jordan Times

was announced today at Hussein Medical City (HMC) a 10-day-old collaborative study on multiple sclerosis (M.S.) is being carried between a group of doctors at HMC and a team from United Kingdom.

A total of 50 well-studied patients suffering from multiple sclerosis was chosen according to the most recent criteria of the British Medical Council. Each patient will be examined and given a thorough ophthalmic examination, blood sample from the patient and a sample from one of his relatives will then be taken for control purposes. Some of the patients on the blood samples will be carried out at HMC while the rest will be carried out in the United Kingdom.

The British team consists of Dr. Ian McDonald, Professor of Clinical Neurology at the University of London and a fellow of the British Medical Research Council; Prof. Richard Nelson, Professor of Tissue Pathology at the University of Edinburgh; Dr. Victor Jones, Director of the Research Unit at the Victoria Hospital; Dr. Alastair Cornhill, a fellow at the Melroe Research Unit and Institute of Neurology.

The Jordanian team from HMC consists of Brig. Dr. Ash-Surdi, head of the Medical Department and chief neurologist; Col. Dr. Ibrahim Ayesh, of the Ophthalmic Department; Lt. Col. Ussama Ma'at, consultant in Clinical Pathology; and Lt. Col. Adnan Jilani, specialist in neurology.

Dr. McDonald, head of the British team, said: "This provides us with a unique opportunity to study the disease in the causation of an important neurological disease, which affects young people not only here in Jordan but even more frequently in other countries all over the world."

He added: "I am highly impressed by the clinical expertise and experience and facilities which are available here, which are certainly better than many units in the U.S., U.K. and Europe."

It is appropriate to note that this unit is a training centre for doctors from the World. The best way to improve a training centre is to

concentrate skills in a neuroscience institute. I also hope that this collaborative study will be the first part of a permanent link between our institute in London and an institute here.

Multiple sclerosis is one of the commonest diseases that affects the nervous system, and may lead to blindness, difficulty in speech and paralysis in the legs and arms.

This disease was thought to be rare in Jordan until about four years ago, when the first neurological unit was established at the Royal Medical Services in 1972. It started to record an increasing number of patients suffering from M.S. about 100 cases now, of which 95 per cent are from Jordan and the neighbouring Arab countries. The other 5 per cent are foreigners living and working in Jordan.

This relatively high incidence rate suggests that a detailed study will certainly advance knowledge of the disease. Many eminent centres concerned were approached to initiate this study before the British team was chosen.

This is not the first research work done at the neuro-sciences unit at HMC. Previously, work centred on causes of optic atrophy in Jordan; cerebral death; a brief review of the first 1,000 patients on whom electroencephalogram (EEG) was done.

The neuro-sciences unit at HMC comprises the following sub-specialties: clinical neurology; neurosurgery; neuro-pathology; neuro-radiology; neuro-ophthalmology; neuro-otology; clinical neuro-psychology; and a complete team of well-qualified nurses and technicians.

If this research study goes as planned, it will relieve the agony of many people now suffering from multiple sclerosis.

Twenty-year-old Mohammad Mahmoud Jaradat of Beshra in Irbid is one of these people: "I felt the symptoms of this disease for the first time in 1974, while serving in the army. My legs were paralysed, and it was difficult for me to speak. I was admitted for the first time to HMC, and I stayed 43 days, after which I was discharged. I was alright till last February, when I felt the same symptoms. I was admitted to the hospital once again."

Yasmine Farah Al Mualim, a 24-year-old patient from the West Bank, said that in 1974 she complained of lack of vision and weakness in her right

hand. She did not go to a doctor and a month later felt that she was back to normal. In 1975 the same symptoms returned -- this time on the left side. She went to the Women's Medical Union in Nablus, where she was treated with medicine. This did not help.

Mrs. Nuhail Youssef Al Naber -- from the West Bank -- has complained of the same disease for 16 years. Her husband has been a paraplegic patient for a few years. She said that after these long years of treatment, she hopes that His Majesty the King will listen to her appeal and help her with the treatment fees which she cannot afford.

John Tamari, a pharmacist, has been complaining about the same symptoms, and hopes that the efforts being carried out now will succeed in helping him to be his normal self again.

The study will proceed for two weeks, after which the doctors can start the arduous task of finding a cure.

FERTILISER PLANT LOAN APPROVED

AMMAN (Agencies). -- An agreement was signed Monday whereby France will loan Jordan JD 17 million to finance a phosphate plant to the south of Aqaba.

The loan is to be repaid over 25 years at 3.5 per cent interest.

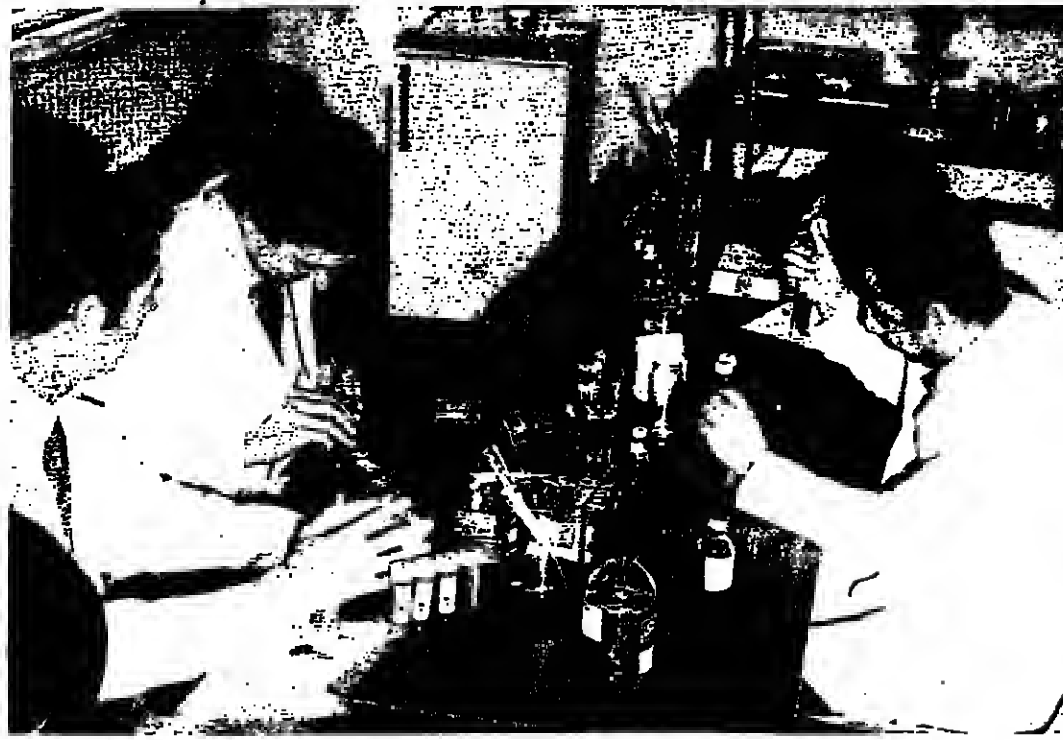
The main contractor, Sple Batignolles, has already completed the first phase of preparatory work for the project. The French company is already putting out tenders for excavation work. This work is expected to begin not later than the end of June.

Total cost of the fertiliser project will reach JD 100 million and arrangements are currently being made to secure the necessary loans for financing the project.

What's Going On

A film entitled "Sleuth", starring Lawrence Olivier and Michael Caine, 6:30 p.m., at the British Council, Jabel Amman.

The Goethe Institute presents a film entitled "Dr. Mabuse -- Inferno des Verbrechens", 8:00 p.m., at the Goethe Institute, Jabel Amman.



Members of the British-Jordanian team work to ease the pain of multiple sclerosis.

NAZARETH ARABS

PAY CONDOLENCES

TO KING HUSSEIN

AMMAN (R). -- Sixteen Israeli Arabs Monday crossed King Hussein Bridge to pay a condolence visit to King Hussein on the death of Queen Ailyn.

The group, mostly from the Nazareth area, was the latest of many to visit the King during the past few weeks.

Society to discuss problems of writer

AMMAN (J.T.). -- A seminar on Jordanian writers' affairs will be held at the Jordanian Writers Society headquarters at 5 p.m. Tuesday.

The society has called this seminar to bold discussions on seven subjects submitted by participants. Two of the subjects are presented by the society itself.

Its aim is to define and outline the educational, cultural and literary movement in Jordan, in addition to studying the difficulties and problems facing the local writer in different fields.

Participants will divide into three committees on the writer and contemporary organisations, the writer face to face with publication and distribu-

Jarash, Mafrq villages to see improvements

AMMAN (JNA). -- Prince Hassan Sunday paid a visit to a number of villages of the Ban Hassan tribes in the Jarash and Mafrq districts and stressed the need to improve conditions for inhabitants there.

He visited the villages of Mushairfeh, Qafqafa, East Mushairfeh, Dajanih, Rebab, Abu Al Soussa, Khnaizir, Hameed, West and East Hayyan, Hayyan Al Sharaf, Eidoun and Um Zeitouneh.

Prince Hassan listened to the requests of the sheikhs and no-

ISLAMIC FUND ALLOCATES \$1.5m TO JERUSALEM

ABU DHABI, March 14 (JNA). The Permanent Council of the Islamic Solidarity Fund today meeting here, has allocated \$1.5 million to Arab Jerusalem to help it resist judaisation.

The council also earmarked \$1.5 million to support Islamic societies throughout the world. \$400,000 will go to earthquake victims in Turkey.

The council, which opened Saturday, is attended by representatives of 13 Moslem countries, including Jordan.

Badran reviews recent M.E. developments

AMMAN (JNA). -- During his meeting with members of the Upper House of Parliament, Prime Minister Mudar Badran Sunday reviewed political developments in the Arab World, and Jordan in particular, in the light of recent meetings in Amman and other Arab capitals.

Premier Badran also reported to the Upper House on the recent discussions in Amman with the American, French, West German and Greek foreign ministers, as well as with a PLO delegation.

He further reviewed the Afro-Arab summit and the discussions, which King Hussein held with PLO leader Yasser Arafat during their meeting in Cairo.

port to the Cabinet on the work and results of the Afro-Arab summit. He referred in particular to the role played by the King at the summit, which had on obvious effect on the results of the conference.

King Hussein's talks with a number of Arab and African leaders dealt mainly with the promotion of bilateral cooperation in the economic, cultural and technical fields, Mr. Badran pointed out.

He also reported on King Hussein's talks with Mr. Arafat on developments in the Middle East and efforts being made to bring about peace in the area.

Kuwaiti loan for projects discussed

AMMAN (JNA). -- A draft agreement has been prepared under which the Jordanian government will receive an 8.9 million Kuwaiti dinar loan from the Kuwaiti Fund for Arab Economic Development.

A delegation from the fund left here Monday after a two-week visit to Jordan, during which they held talks with officials on financing a number of projects.

If the loan is approved, it will be used to boost potash production and ensure its transportation, as well as to finance the King Talal Dam and the Hussein Thermal Power Station.

Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates in effect at the start of today's business day, as set by the Central Bank of Jordan.

The first column is how much you would receive in Jordanian dinars for selling a unit of the foreign currency, while the second column denotes how much it would cost you to buy a unit of the foreign currency:

U.K. sterling	572.0	578.0
U.S. dollar	332.0	334.0
German mark	133.9	139.3
French franc	66.7	67.0
Swiss franc	130.2	130.6
Italian lira (for every 100)	37.6	37.8
Saudi riyal	85.7	94.0
Lebanese pound	105.9	105.4
Syrian pound	82.1	82.3
Iraqi dinar	943.0	950.0
Kuwaiti dinar	1,150.0	1,153.0
Egyptian pound	464.0	472.0
Libyan dinar	800.0	810.0
UAE dirham	85.0	85.3

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NATIONAL NOTES

AMMAN. -- Jordan Monday notified the Islamic Conference's Secretariat of its approval of Saudi Arabia's proposal to postpone meeting of Islamic foreign ministers until after July. The meeting was originally scheduled for May in Libya.

AMMAN. -- Minister of Education Abdul Salam Majali Monday held over a meeting of education directors in the various governorates and districts to review the steps taken by the ministry to celebrate Teachers' Day Wednesday.

AMMAN. -- The commander of the special forces Monday graded a new group of paratroopers comprising army officers, and public security members.

AMMAN. -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Hassan Ibrahim Monday received the West German charge d'affaires in Amman.

AMMAN. -- The acting Secretary General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Zaki Al Qususi, Monday received the Saudi ambassador to Jordan and Jordan's ambassador to Egypt.

AMMAN. -- Minister of Culture and Youth, Sharif Fawwaz Monday received the North Korean ambassador to Jordan, and invited him to visit North Korea.

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The winds of change sweep most of Africa into new found freedom

LONDON (Gemin) — The pace of world change is so fast in this second half of the 20th century that today it seems hardly conceivable that in 1957 the whole black Africa except Liberia and Ethiopia and most of Arab Africa — altogether about nine-tenths of the continent — were ruled by the British, French, Belgians, Portuguese and Spanish.

Today the only colony left is Rhodesia (and that is not now a colony in the normal sense) with South Africa and its illegal appendage Namibia under minority rule.

It has been a stunning 20 years. Few had predicted that Ghana's independence would be the signal for a quick colonial scramble from Africa.

The British, most important of the colonial powers, were working on the basis that its colonies would one by one, over the ensuing two or three decades, gradually become self-governing and then independent. Places like Northern Rhodesia (Zambia) and Bechuanaland (Botswana) were still at Gha-

na's independence being governed in a traditional colonial manner with Africans having almost no say in government.

The French and Belgians had no worked-out concept for the future and the Portuguese had every intention of staying in Africa for ever.

Yet only three years after Ghana's independence, in 1960, sixteen colonies were given their independence, and by the end of the sixties most of the others were free.

The move happened because in London and Paris it was quickly recognised by the governments of Harold Macmillan and President de Gaulle — both pragmatic governments of the right — that the game was up. Colonialism was no longer a tenable proposition for the times and to hang on would mean bloodshed and an open-ended strain on the financial and military resources of the metropolitan countries that they could not sustain.

The British, in any case, had not needed to be persuaded in to eventual decolonisation.

They had already been in the business for many years, having left India in 1947 and Malaya in 1957.

Today it is common in ex-colonial countries like Britain to talk about what might have been in Africa. The older generation, fed on headlines about what has gone wrong rather than what has gone right, still believe in a vague and unthinking way that Britain should have stayed on and that what has happened since is exactly what they said would happen.

Really, though, in saying this they are condemning their own colonial performance because they are admitting that the African people were not provided with enough education and not given enough say in administration and so were short of experience when they took over. And that, of course, was the case.

Some colonies had only a handful of graduates at independence; the most scandalous

example was in the Belgian Congo (now Zaire), a country almost as big as the whole of Europe, which had fewer African graduates than one human being has fingers and only one qualified African doctor.

What is remarkable about Africa since 1957, bearing in mind that in a few years something like 50 new nations came into existence and took their place on the international world stage, is the amount of progress that has been made in many areas and the amount of order, not the amount of disorder, that has prevailed.

For in the first place almost none of the borders of these 50 countries makes such ethnic sense; all are lines mostly drawn on the map by the colonial powers in the 19th century to suit their whims and fancies — and their rivalries. In some countries, power was handed over overnight without even a minimum of preparation for government.

Countries like Ghana and Nigeria were in a different category; there Africans had been active in government right back to the twenties. But in the Congo the Belgians, having created no programme for the introduction of an Africa government suddenly held the country's first general election in its history and then, within days, walked out. It was a recipe for chaos; it could not have been otherwise. The Congo became an immediate target for big power rivalry and for the next few years the rest of Africa struggled to erase the independence-means-chaos image that the Congo had given the entire continent.

There were other colonial legacies which Africa had some how to overcome. French Africa and British Africa were worlds apart; communications between the two sets of colonies — many of them neighbours — were almost nil. Railways, roads, telephone lines had always been installed for the convenience of the colonial power, not of the African inhabitants.

None of the new countries had a national identity; there could be no patriotic feeling for a colony called Northern Rhodesia or the Gold Coast, except a falsely installed patriotism for Britain — nor was any encouraged for obvious reasons. Education of children was not about the traditions of the Ashanti or the Kikuyu or the Shona, but about the Battle of Trafalgar or Guy Fawkes or William of Orange.

For government what was passed down in the British colonies was the Westminster system of government — a sophisticated one if ever there was, full of English eccentricities like the Mace and the Chief Whip and the concept of "Her Majesty's Loyal Opposition". The colonial powers, to be fair, could only pass on what they knew from their own experience and there is not much else they could have done in the circumstances, but it should have surprised nobody — though, apparently it did — that African governments set about working out new systems suited to their own environment. It did mean, however, that drastic changes of constitution inevitably brought the risk of political

tumult to a greater or lesser degree.

What is really disappointing about the history of the wind of change in Africa is not that it was done so quickly but that it was not completed and worked through to its proper conclusion.

The French went on their way (jumping the high fence of Algeria after much bloodshed, but leaving an unhealthy economic grip on its weaker ex-colonies); the Belgians went quickly into a shambles; the British handled the situation better than any other colonial power, but then fumbled the last fence, Rhodesia, with appalling consequences for the whole continent; and the Portuguese resisted for 15 years and then left in disorder.

The consequences of Britain's failure in Rhodesia and Portugal's intransigence together with the presence of white-dominated apartheid-run South Africa have been responsible for most of the tensions and upheavals that have troubled Africa in these last twenty years.

If Portugal had decolonised in the early Sixties along with the other colonial powers and if the British had forced a transition to majority rule in Rhodesia, which it could perfectly well have done if it had shown the political will and courage that it had displayed earlier, notably in Kenya, then the story of black Africa's first twenty years would have been a very different and much calmer one.

That is not to say this would have stopped civil war breaking out in Nigeria, or a coup in Uganda bringing to power a tyrant, or the excesses in countries like the Central African Republic or Equatorial Guinea. But the enormous strains put on countries like Zambia, Zaire, Tanzania and many others by events in Mozambique, Angola, Rhodesia and Namibia — the enormous diversion of political energy and the disruption of young countries economic lines of communication (the huge difficulties encouraged for example by Zambia in getting its goods in and out as a result of the Angolan and Rhodesian disruption) have been of cruel dimensions.

Even more seriously, the failure of the colonial powers to force through decolonisation to its logical conclusions has, apart from the bloodshed that is still going on and seems bound to escalate in the next few years, produced the very development that they and the Africans wanted to avoid: the involvement of the superpowers in African affairs.

The Russians and Americans became engaged in Angola and today we see the United States involving itself in the Rhodesian problem — and area where it has no historical links whatsoever — and we see the Russians, as was to be expected in the circumstances, helping the guerrillas in Rhodesia. The longer the Europeans try to hold on the deeper will become the Russian and American involvement with all the obvious consequences for peace in Southern Africa.

It would be naive to contend that the since idealism of the wind of change period, Pan-Africanism has been fulfilled. But to argue as some Europeans do, that independence in Africa has been an unmitigated disaster is equally naive and does not bear factual examination.

Some of the poorest countries, and Africa contains many of the world's poorest of all — have made little headway — they hardly had a chance in the present world economic order of things anyway. But some countries have made great strides economically and socially; independence opened doors to international investment and trade and forced dramatic economic development.

For every country in Africa that has a degree of instability there is another that is stable and progressing. Uganda we all know about, but who examines

the quiet progress of countries like Cameroun and Botswana? Against those countries like Benin which suffer from coups must be set the stability of the governments in Tanzania, Zambia, Kenya, Malawi, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Swaziland and

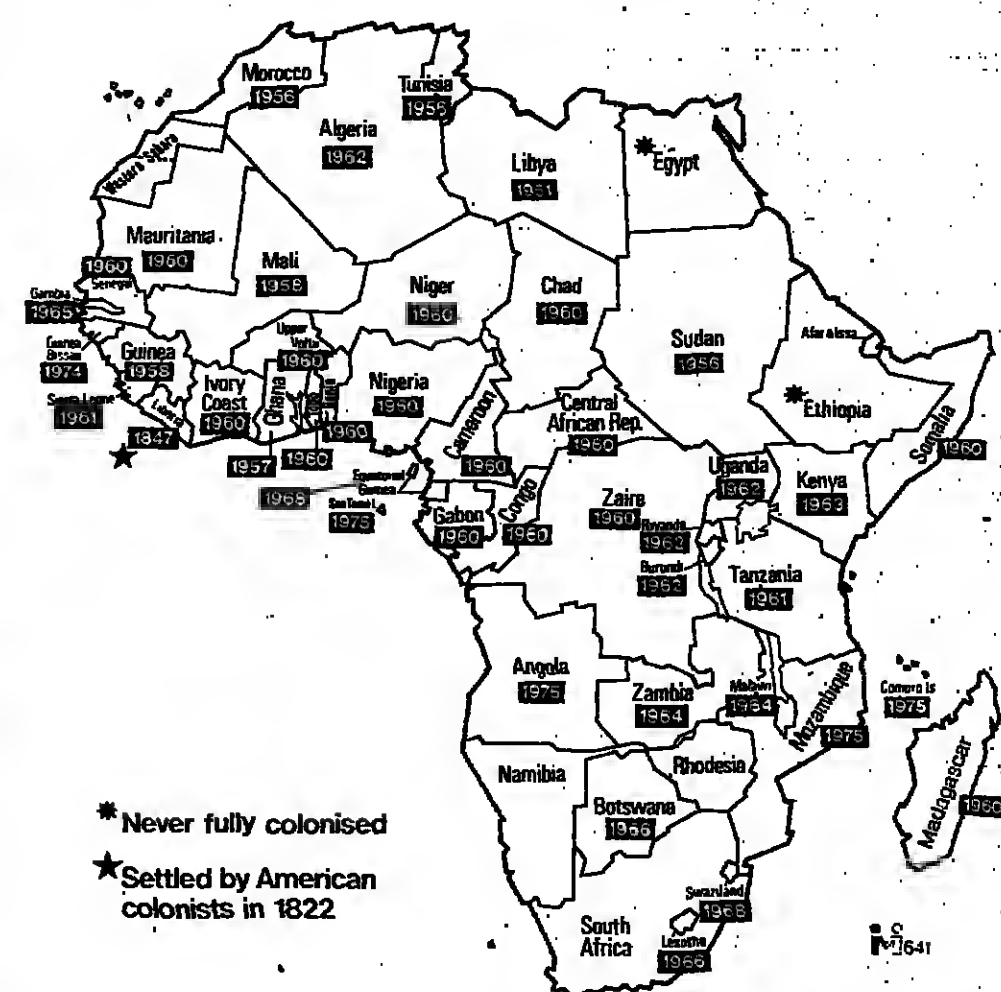
many more. In vast areas of Africa no shot has been fired in anger. Life goes on, troubled by poverty and disease, but not by political strife.

We now begin to see the colonial era in Africa — in some areas 500 years but in others

less than a hundred — a small period in a historical case. The change in the situation had to come and it was that it should have been achieved through quickly. What a tragedy that it not done completely!

HOW THE WIND CHANGED

Africa's independence dates country by country



* Never fully colonised
* Settled by American colonists in 1822

Civil rights activists find hope in FBI investigation after 5 year imprisonment

President Carter and his new Attorney General, Judge Griffin Bell, are both Southerners, from an area traditionally unfair to black people. But it is Judge Bell who has ordered a top-level investigation into the case of ten civil rights activists who seem to have been deprived of justice for five years.

WASHINGTON, D.C. (F.T.) — No cabinet appointment by President Jimmy Carter was greeted with such outrage by blacks and liberals as the nomination of former Appeals Court Judge Griffin B. Bell for Attorney General.

Mr. Carter had promised his supporters a special "sensitivity" to black problems and a concern for racial justice. Washington waited expectantly for the naming of the first Black American Attorney General, a female nominee or, at the very least, a well certified liberal. Instead, the president shocked many followers with his choice of Mr. Bell, a fellow Georgian with, at best, a mixed record on civil rights.

His swearing-in ceremony, with the president looking on, was a joint effort in the name of "symbolic" leadership for which the Carter administration is becoming known. Flung open the massive steel doors of the Justice Department, which had been locked as a security precaution against demonstrators and terrorists since 1970, the new Attorney General announced, "We're coming out from behind the barricades."

The locked doors, the president added, were "symbolic of a separation of the disaffected and the disadvantaged from the core of justice."

The attorney general's stress on equal justice and his subsequent naming of two black men and two women to department leadership posts went some way towards mollifying his critics.

But more significant still, was one of his first acts as attorney general: The ordering of a high priority investigation by the FBI and the Department's Civil Rights Division in the controversial case of "The Wilmington Ten."

While thousands of demonstrators and civil rights workers had been thrust into southern jails during the 1960's, relatively few were held for long-term periods. In Wilmington, North Carolina, in 1972, the authorities convicted ten activists — a black minister, a white woman social worker

and eight black youths of arson and related acts of violence. The ten were sentenced to unprecedented combined prison terms totalling 282 years, amid considerable controversy about the way the case was conducted.

Under the American system, arson is tried in the individual state courts rather than in the federal system. Mr. Bell's intervention is the more significant because it has become rare for the federal government to intervene in a state court. The federal investigation can lead to a new trial and federal charges against any who may have been found to have deprived the defendants of their civil rights.

Despite its image as a progressive southern state, North Carolina has always had the reputation of being tightly controlled by conservative business interests. Large industries dominate the state, and its politicians are well aware of its importance. Only 7 per cent of the state's workers are organised into unions, the lowest percentage in the nation. The state has no black representation in Congress.

Since the post-reconstruction period, black peoples efforts to organise either politically or economically have met fierce resistance. In the late 1960's, following the assassination of civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. a new generation of blacks emerged, determined to gain full civil rights. Their first target was the newly desegregated schools.

The arrests of the ten defendants came more than a year after a period of extreme racial turbulence in Wilmington. Black students were complaining about racial prejudice in high schools, of the death of black teachers, of the lack of courses on black culture. Their protests escalated into racial violence. The Ku Klux Klan and another white vigilante group were roaming through the streets of the black neighbourhood, and the blacks were fighting back.

To calm the black community, the state's Good Neighbourhood Council called in the central figure in the case, the Rev. Benjamin Chavis, a young, charismatic minister with a chemistry degree from the University of North Carolina, a seasoned leader of non-violent protests.

"We were glad to have Ben," says the Rev. Aaron Johnson, a former council member. "There was no leadership, no black leadership at all, in Wilmington. Militants were

starting to stream in from other cities, even from out state, and they were trying to get control of Wilmington. Chavis was about the only man we knew who could prevent that and still have a chance of keeping a few things."

Still, a black youth was killed by police. A white-owned store was firebombed. A white man was killed and others were wounded. National guardsmen were called in. Curfew was imposed and violence died out.

During the year following the protests, the Rev. Chavis led the Wilmington blacks in organising a new community church, and a political action. Thirteen months after the store was fire-bombed, he and his followers were arrested and charged with the crime.

The case is now being taken to appeal on procedural grounds. As the state trial was held in 1972, the original 10 blacks and two whites was dismissed after the assistant prosecutor became ill and complained of stomach pain.

When the trial began in September, the judge was not agree that membership in the Ku Klux Klan was a cause for rejecting prospective jurors. The second jury consisted of ten whites and two blacks. Defence witnesses failed to appear at the trial, fearful they now say, reprisals and arrests. Now, protected by publicity and the interest of the federal government, participants are prepared to testify that the defendants were with them at the time the crime was committed.

Two key prosecution witnesses were serving sentences for other crimes and had received favourable treatment by the government. One of them, All Ray Hall, has recanted a testimony.

In a statement dated September 24, 1976, Mr. Hall said "I did not know Ben Chavis or the other Wilmington Ten until Mr. (Jay) Stroud (the assistant prosecutor) told me their names. I did not see any of the Wilmington Ten do anything wrong. The detective told me that if I did not along with them that they would put me in prison for life."

Another witness, who was 14 at the time of the trial, said he was given a bribe and a job by the prosecutor return for his false testimony.

The Wilmington Ten, who have been languishing in prison since the case failed to get a supreme court hearing in January, 1976, and who served many months in their arrest while hundreds of thousands of dollars were raised for bail, have long complained about the "irregularities" of their trial.

Almost five years after the ordeal began, the Justice Department, under a Southern Attorney General, has finally even them cause for hope.

IMF suggests OPEC involvement in new financial programme to relieve Third World debts

WASHINGTON, D.C. (CSM) — Dr. Arthur F. Burns, Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, has raised to the official level a matter that has troubled some financial experts for months: The growing loans by commercial banks of industrial countries to the Third World.

Speaking to the Joint Economic Committee recently, Dr. Burns called on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to take a surveillance role to prevent overexposure of commercial bank lending in the less developed countries.

"We need to develop the rule of law in this IMF," he said, "and the only instrument for this is the IMF. Unless we have the rule of law, we will have chaos."

Dr. Burns' suggestion is of more than financial importance; it has political significance. He was implying that commercial bank loans be keyed to acceptance by the borrowing countries of IMF conditions.

When the IMF sets "conditions," it tells a nation to make policy changes that are often political dynamite. It could, for instance, demand a reduction in government spending, an increase in taxation, the tightening of monetary conditions, or even an improvement in the efficiency of government corporations.

Though such actions may often be necessary, they sometimes bring a temporary reduction in living standards. No Third World politician finds that thought a happy one.

Opinions on the seriousness of the Third World debt problem differ. For instance, Roger H. Cass, in a 150-page study for NAE Research Associates,

speaks of "the enormous, rapidly growing, and daily more unstable pyramid of Third World debt" that could begin "its disastrous but ultimately inevitable collapse."

On the other hand, Argus Research Corporation maintains that "there is a low probability of occurrence for the full sequence of events required to produce actual write-offs of LDC (less developed country) debt — even on an isolated basis. We believe the prophets of gloom are overdoing it."

Perhaps actual events will lie somewhere between these two views — some countries may have to refinance their debts. In any event, the issue is dangerous enough that one major leader to Third World countries, the Morgan Guaranty Trust Company, also has proposed that the IMF's role be enlarged and upgraded to help prevent a financial crisis.

"The willingness of banks to continue to provide a sizable portion of the balance-of-payments financing requirements of non-OPEC LDCs and various industrial countries clearly would be enhanced by a better balancing of the roles of official and private sources of financing," says Morgan Guaranty in last month's World Financial Markets publication.

"Morgan Guaranty calls for a major increase in the fund's ability to lend to its member countries. The amount of IMF credit available has to be large enough to induce a country to submit itself to the conditions imposed by the fund," it notes.

Morgan Guaranty refers with apparent approval to a suggestion made at Jamaica in January, 1976, by the interim com-

mittee of the board of governors of the IMF of the possibility of providing so-called "super tranches" — loans beyond the normal lending capacity of the IMF.

It also suggests that OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) with huge international payments surpluses be brought into another IMF facility, the General Arrangements to Borrow (GAB). The GAB now includes the 10 major industrial members of the fund, plus Switzerland. This change would be made to increase IMF access to oil country surplus funds. Also, GAB resources would be made useable beyond the industrial countries (as now restricted) to Third World nations.

Morgan Guaranty estimates that the combined external debt of the non-OPEC LDCs reached an estimated 180 billion dollars by the end of 1976. Of this, approximately 75 billion dollars was owed to commercial banks in industrial countries. They could run up another 32 billion dollars current-account deficit this year, adding hugely to their debts.

NAE Research Associates is a bit more pessimistic, putting the current account deficit (international payments deficit) at 36 billion dollars. Also, the non-oil LDCs have a 17 billion dollar amortisation requirement on their old debts, NAE Research estimates.

Advices Morgan Guaranty: "The Fund (IMF) should assume a more aggressive posture, reaching for new resources and also for new ideas and talent. Furthermore, efforts should be made to forge a new partnership between the fund and the private financial institutions of the world, involving a mutual sharing of information and opinion. The needs of the present situation demand no less."

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مركز سياحي

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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West vulnerable. East is.

NORTH
♠ 74
♥ 83
♦ Q965
♣ Q10864
EAST
♠ 86
♥ J9
♦ AKJ104
♣ 2

SOUTH
♠ AK1072
♥ J32
♦ AK10532
♣ 9
♦ AK5

bidding:
♠ South West North
♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass
♠ 3 ♠ 4 ♠ Pass
♠ 4 ♠ Pass Pass

ending lead: King of ♠.

When you are playing a bid, it is usually wise to reveal the location of your high cards. You would be surprised how often a pinch of confusion will cause the opponents to go astray. South was not very happy when no one doubled four spades, for that suggested that he was taking aanton sacrifice. Nor did he sight of dummy please greatly, for he was offree fast losers in the red suits as well as a trump. West started with two hearts, declarer ruffing. South realized that it might fatal to give the defenders chance to signal. Backing deduction from the auction, he led the ace of spades

and another. The purpose of this maneuver was two-fold. First, if neither defender

had started with a singleton spade, both would have to follow suit and neither would be able to make a useful dis-

card. Secondly, by concealing the king of spades, declarer helped sow a seed of doubt in the defenders' minds—if South did not hold

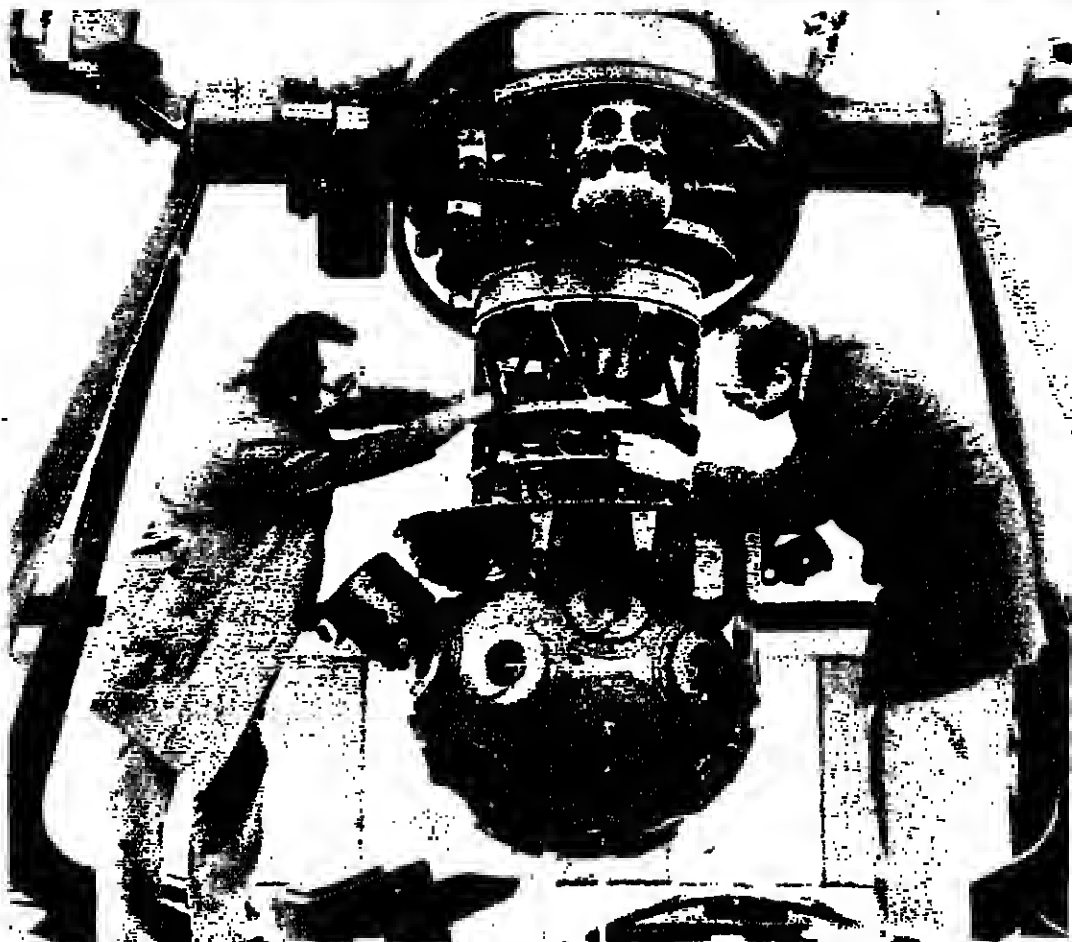
the king, he had to have his high cards outside the trump suit.

West could not afford to go up with the queen of spades in case East held a doubleton king. But when

East won the jack he was in a difficult spot. It did not look right to lead a diamond away from the king with the queen in dummy, especially since West might have the king of

spades. So East settled for the "safe" heart return, and declarer was on easy street. He ruffed and drew the last trump, and then ran dummy's clubs. Five tricks in trumps and five in clubs were all that declarer had contracted for. East's king and West's ace of diamonds shared the honors on the last trick.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO

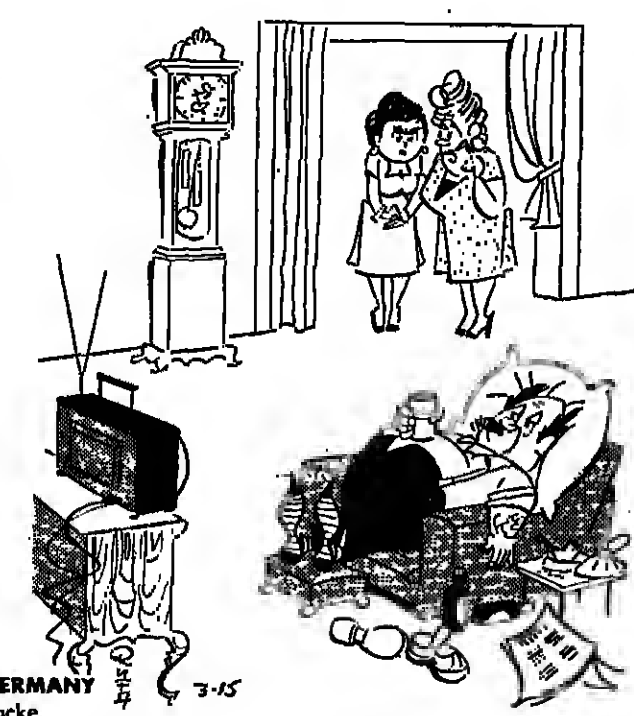


STAR-GAZING -- The most modern planetarium in the world will be shown at this April's National Garden Exhibition in West Germany. More than five metres high, the apparatus was made by the optical firm of Carl Zeiss, and consists of more than 30,000 parts. It contains 14 motors, 170 cogwheels with linking chains, and 230 sets of roller bearings for the adjustment of the 150 projectors. Nearly 9,000 stars can be projected onto the inside dome of the planetarium. Astronomers can "reconstruct" the heavens as they probably looked back at the time of Christ, or give a prediction how the skies at night will look in, say, the year 3000.

...HALLO!
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THE JORDAN TIMES...

GRAFFITI
WHISTLER'S
MOTHER
WAS
FRAMED
AND
HUNG

LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



"I worry very much about what he'll do after he retires."

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RIGHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when there could be minor annoyances, especially where unresolved situations of the past are concerned. Look for new ideas by which you can streamline your activities.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Clarify your true aims and know the best way to go after them. Check your surroundings and make necessary repairs.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Consult higher-ups and get the backing you need. Make certain to handle credit affairs wisely. Take health treatments.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are tempted to go off in new directions but this requires careful thought. Take time for social pleasures.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Ideal day to carry through with promises you have made to others instead of going off on some new tangent.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Contact a business expert for advice you need. Don't throw away any bookkeeping receipts that may be needed later.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be sure to handle routine duties instead of going off on any silly tangents. Sidestep one who has an eye on your assets.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Give more time to your mate and increase happiness. Attend a social affair and make sure your clothing is immaculate.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Make changes in your surroundings so that it is more functional. Make plans to have more abundance in the future.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have to exercise utmost care in motion now to avoid possible accident. Be self-controlled and avoid arguments.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Show gratitude to those who have given you assistance in the past. Contact outsiders for data you need.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) If you use accepted systems now you can advance in career matters. Take time to improve your appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan how to handle a new problem in a modern way and get good results. Take no chances where your reputation is concerned.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Scramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form ordinary words.

GULEN
CANKK
FLTUE
BRONCA

Print answer here: A

Answers tomorrow

Today's Jumbles: TAFFY SUAVE CALMLY FIGURE
Answer: A youthful beef--VEAL

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

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TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURE

APPLES WAY: TORNADO
The Apples family seek refuge in their underground shelter when a cyclone hits their town.

HAWAII 5-0: DEAD AIM
McGarrett, helps Japanese police officer, on mission in Hawaii, to discover the source of smuggled arms shipped from Honolulu into Japan.

RICH MAN POOR MAN: CHAPTER 11
Rudy finds his long lost nephew Leslie, who is taken back to France by his father Tom. Marital trouble starts between Rudy and Julie.

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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
23. Recording
24. Sungod
26. And Latin
27. Verb form
29. That thing
30. Tenure
32. Coach
34. Since
36. Flightless bird
39. Establishes
40. Streak in mahogany
41. Peace pipe
43. Price is one
44. War god
45. Serve

DOWN
1. Hiding place
2. Liquid part of lat.
3. Plague
4. Painted tool
5. Stimulus
6. Expatriate
7. "The Janitor"
8. Reek
9. Means of access
10. Be indignant
11. Amends
12. Christening
13. Medieval tale
14. Fortify
15. Glacial ice
16. Limb
17. Bugle call
18. Mouselike animal
19. Straightedge
20. Requirements
21. Envelop
22. Center of emotion
23. Be woe
24. Diamond cutter's cup

AP Newsfeatures 3-15

ADTIED YALTI
RECIPROCAT
OMEN ALMS
SOD PIKE ATA
EN LOSS KNOT
WAKE FETCH
CLOVE TIPS
LIRA MINT HE
IAN FANS FOX
ON DINE DAVO
AMALGAMATED
ELMO ANELE

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PEANUTS

3-7

3-7

THE FLINTSTONES

3-7

3-7

MUTTI AND JEFF

3-7

3-7

Pakistani opposition leaders arrested

in a dedicated and ruthless manner."

The paper says: "It would have been expected of Mr. Rabin that he would try his hardest to heal the wounds inflicted during the competition at the party's convention. Instead he has done the opposite. He has been a source of trouble, after having failed in his bid to replace Mr. Rabin, he insists now on an equal division of the party's spoils, and his professions of loyalty to the newly re-elected chief rather lack in conviction." Do these two men keep undermining each other to take the party to the electoral grave? Ask the Irishman to go, which is the only way there is to get rid of them, and they want to make their peace a host of uncommitted party members will simply call a plague on both their houses."

Mr. Bhutto offered to talk with the PNA leaders, discuss their grievances but opposition rejected a dialog.

The Laotian authorities called at the last minute and official visit he was to have in to France in 1975.

Government circles in Vientiane that leaked the news of the arrest indicated that the king's approval, had given Prince Savangvong, his support to rebel national

DAMASCUS, March 14 (A-
cles). — Italian Foreign Mi-
nister Arnaldo Forlani arrived
here today after a two-day
trip to Egypt.

They also claim that since the Ford administration agreed to Concorde tests at Washington's Dulles Airport and Ken-

arded two leading South Korean firms contracts totalling \$430 million to build port facilities, the Korean firms said today.

Price of gold closed in London Monday at \$143.73/oz.

WASHINGTON, March 14 (APF). — U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal yesterday offered hopes of "moderate" customs protection to American industries threatened by foreign imports. In a television interview, Mr. Blumenthal said that an international trade commission had said that the spot industry, sugar trade and colour television industry were all threatened by an increase in imports. He preferred, the treasury secretary said, to aid these industries by internal measures aimed at restructuring their methods.

WASHINGTON, March 14 (AFP). — President Jimmy Carter has the approval of 71 per cent of Americans for the way he is governing a Gallup Institute opinion poll published here yesterday.

Whatever the result of election, even if Mrs. Gair remains in power, the Congress Party which she leads which has been governing the country for 30 years, can no longer again behave as it did during the recent emergency.

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